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Knocking Down the Barriers to Knowledge: Lila Bailey wins IP3 Award

Posted on [August 10, 2020](#) by [Wendy Hanamura](#)



Lila Bailey, Esq.—Policy Counsel for the Internet Archive

access to contemporary research through [Controlled Digital Lending](#) — the library lending practice currently under threat because of a legal challenge from large commercial publishers.”

“My whole career has been leading up to this moment,” Bailey mused, speaking about her role defending the Internet Archive against the publishers’ copyright lawsuit. “This is what I went to law school to do: to fight for the democratization of knowledge.”



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Lila Bailey, center, with lawyers and librarians Michelle Wu, Lisa Weaver, Jim Michalko, Michael Blackwell and Tom Blake in 2019, during visits to Capitol Hill where they helped explain Controlled Digital Lending to key legislators.

As a law school student at Berkeley Law, Bailey was a student attorney at the [Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic](#), where she laid the legal groundwork for the Internet Archive's Television News Archive.

In private practice at Perkins Cole, Bailey won the Pro Bono Leadership award for her tireless work defending the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine against a legal challenge.

Bailey later went on to work for [Creative Commons](#), helping to ensure that everyone everywhere has access to high quality, open educational resources. She served as a fellow at the Electronic Freedom Foundation, and later returned to Berkeley Law as a Teaching Fellow to help train the next generation of public interest technology lawyers.

“Now that our lives are largely online, copyright law, which is supposed to promote creativity and learning, sometimes creates barriers to these daily activities. The work I am doing is to try to clear some of those barriers away so we can realize that utopian vision of universal access to knowledge.”

—Lila Bailey

Since joining the Internet Archive as Policy Counsel in 2017, Bailey has focused on building a community of practice around Controlled Digital Lending (CDL). Although the library practice has existed for more than a decade, Bailey has been working with Michelle Wu, Kyle K. Courtney, David Hansen, Mary Minow and other legal scholars to help libraries navigate the complex legal framework that allows libraries to bring their traditional lending function online. Today, with [hundreds of endorsers](#), Controlled Digital Lending defines a legal pathway for libraries to digitize the books they already own and lend them online in a secure way.

“As a copyright lawyer, I find her to be an incredibly inspiring colleague, a natural leader, and great person,” said Harvard Copyright Advisor, Kyle Courtney, who works with Bailey on the CDL Task Force. “I know that her work creates a multiplier effect that can inspire others, like myself, to advocate for greater access to culture and enhance a library’s role in the modern world.”

So what drives this intellectual property warrior forward? “Access to knowledge matters to everyone. It’s the great equalizer. That is what the internet has given us—this vision of everyone having equal ability to learn and also to teach, to read and also to speak,” she explained. “Now that our lives are largely online, copyright law, which is supposed to promote creativity and learning, sometimes creates barriers to these daily activities. The work I am doing is to try to clear some of those barriers away so we can realize that utopian vision of universal access to knowledge.”

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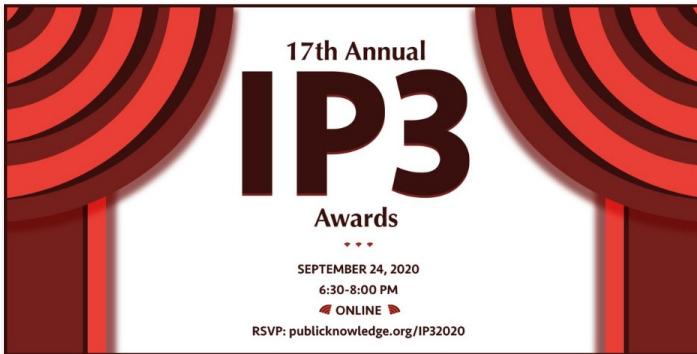
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On September 24, IP3 Awards will also be presented to **Matthew Rantanen** (Canadian Cree), Director of Technology for the [Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association](#) and Director for the [Tribal Digital Village Network Initiative](#), **Geoffrey C. Blackwell** (Chickasaw, Choctaw, Omaha, Muscogee Creek), Chief Strategy Officer and General Counsel for [AMERIND](#), for their work establishing [AMERIND Critical Infrastructure](#), focused on closing the digital divide in Indian Country. Also being honored is [Stop Hate for Profit](#), a campaign that organized a mass boycott of Facebook advertising.

Previous IP3 Award winners include Bailey's mentors Professor Pam Samuelson and Internet Archive founder, Brewster Kahle; along with many of her heroes including professors Peter Jaszi, Lateef Mtima, and Rebecca Tushnet. Be sure to attend the award ceremony on **September 24, 6-8 PM ET**, by registering [here](#).



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8 thoughts on “Knocking Down the Barriers to Knowledge: Lila Bailey wins IP3 Award”



Reader

August 11, 2020 at 4:09 am

Lila Bailey is doing great work. So much a burden of a task! Surely, she might need more help to contend with the four firm prosecution team. It's overwhelming odds in how they will nit-pick and so on.



Flores

August 16, 2020 at 2:25 pm

Thank You Lila Bailey!! Being able to access knowledge is a basic human right..



Capptain Mark

August 11, 2020 at 6:57 am

Amazing lady!!



Suzanne Smith Schlabs

August 11, 2020 at 4:54 pm

Thank You Lila Bailey!! Being able to access knowledge is a basic human right.



Yourx Web Design

August 11, 2020 at 4:58 pm

Miss with tireless effort

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August 12, 2020 at 3:27 am

You were great and everyone received so much from your experience and knowledge
Absolutely amazing, thank you for sharing your knowledge with me.



[Zilla](#)

August 15, 2020 at 1:47 pm

it is always great to see people getting the recommendations they deserve especially in a world
today where people do not give people their roses when they are alive. Congrats to her. She is a
big winner.



[Nancy West](#)

August 17, 2020 at 1:56 am

Lila Bailey,

You are a roll model to all of us!

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